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NEWS

Air Pollution

EPA to Ax RCRA, CERCLA Exemptions From Air Standards

The Environmental Protection Agency May 12 proposed to remove the exemption for site cleanup activities conducted under two federal hazardous waste statutes from the emission standards for hazardous air pollutants....

Air Pollution

WHO Finds Air Pollution Up in Poor Cities

Global urban air pollution rose 8 percent from 2008 to 2013, and nearly all 300 cities in low- and middle-income nations included in a study had air-quality levels below World Health Organization standards, the WHO reported May 12....

Budget

Senate Approves \$37.5 Billion Energy, Water Spending Bill

The Senate voted 90-8 to approve a \$37.5 billion energy and water spending bill May 12 that would authorize interim nuclear storage sites....

Chemicals

EPA Tips to Limit Flame Retardant Exposure

The Environmental Protection Agency released a flier May 12 offering parents tips on ways they can reduce children's exposure to flame retardants. Exposure to flame retardants, the EPA said, may be associated with a range of health problems,...

Chemicals

Nanoscale Rule Proposal Said to Threaten Innovation

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The Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to require companies to notify the agency 135 days before they make or process a new form of an existing nanoscale chemical threatens innovation, according to the American Coatings Association....

Climate Change

UN Notes First Pledges to Aid With Climate Reporting

More than \$34 million in pledges have been made toward a new initiative to help developing countries that agree to strict guidelines for reporting and verifying domestic climate action, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate...

Climate Policy

Germany Offers \$15b to Property Owners to Cut Emissions

Chancellor Angela Merkel's government is offering home and factory owners at least 13 billion euros (\$14.8 billion) in loans and subsidies over the next four years to reduce the carbon emitted from their properties....

Climate Regulation

EPA Help on Clean Power Plan Is Legal, Cruden Says

The Environment Protection Agency's ongoing assistance to states with Clean Power Plan implementation is likely fully compliant with the law, John Cruden, assistant attorney general for the Justice Department's Environment...

Climate Regulation

New Wells Regulated, EPA Eyes Methane From Existing Sources

The Environmental Protection Agency will immediately begin collecting data on methane emissions from existing oil and gas wells after finalizing the first-ever emissions limits for new and modified wells....

Coal Mining

Court Denies Ex-Massey Energy CEO's Bid to Stay Out of Jail

Former Massey Energy chief executive officer Donald Blankenship is headed to prison even as he appeals his conviction for conspiring to flout mine-safety laws in connection with the worst U.S. coal industry disaster in almost 40 years (United...

Congress

House Subpanel Clears Ozone, Nuclear Bills

A House Energy and Commerce subcommittee approved a pair of bills that would delay implementation of the 2015 ozone air standards and foster research and development for advanced nuclear energy technologies....

Drinking Water

EPA to Michigan: Follow Order When Switching Water

As Flint, Mich., prepared to again consider the city's water source options, the Environmental Protection Agency reminded the Michigan environment regulator to abide by federal emergency order requirements and to remember that public...

Endangered Species

Oil and Gas Groups Sue to Block Sage Grouse Plans

Two oil and gas industry groups filed a lawsuit...

Energy

DOE Inspector General Nominee Questioned on Independence

Senators questioned Susan Faye Beard's independence as the nominee for the Energy Department's inspector general during a hearing May 12. ...

Energy

Final EIS Issued on Wyoming-to-Utah Power Line

A proposed 416-mile power transmission line from central Wyoming to central Utah moved a step closer to construction May 12 with publication of a final environmental impact statement as part of a right-of-way application made to the Bureau...

Environmental Justice

Appeals Court Finds EPA Discretion in Civil Rights Actions

A federal district court appropriately found it didn't have jurisdiction and dismissed litigation over the Environmental Protection Agency's handling of a California pesticides-related civil rights complaint, a federal appeals...

Hazardous Waste

EPA Cites Veolia for Waste Handling at New Jersey Location

A hazardous waste recycling company with facilities in Middlesex, N.J., told Bloomberg BNA it will fight allegations by federal authorities that it violated waste regulations....

Hazmat Transport

UN Panel Updates Transportation of Dangerous Goods Rules

This week a United Nations committee approved a series of new regulatory amendments aimed at clarifying standards regarding the transportation of dangerous goods. ...

International Climate

U.S. Elections' Impact on Global Climate Work Muddled: Envoy

Nations around the world are considering what impact the U.S. presidential election will have on the climate change work being done by the world's second greatest emitter, but the outcome of the race won't alter their efforts, the...

Pesticides

Agriculture Committee Probes Glyphosate Error

A second congressional committee is now investigating the Environmental Protection Agency's inadvertent publication, and subsequent scrubbing, of a report on the cancer-causing potential of the Monsanto pesticide glyphosate....

Renewable Energy

Facebook, Microsoft Join Forces on Renewables

Companies such as Facebook and Microsoft want to add 60 gigawatts of renewable energy capacity in the U.S. by 2025 as part of a new alliance of big energy buyers....

Superfund

Insurer's Duty Triggered by Superfund Information Request

An insurer's duty to defend was triggered when the Environmental Protection Agency sent a Superfund information request to its policyholder, the Ninth Circuit ruled (*Ash Grove Cement Co. v. Liberty Mut. Ins. Co.*, 2016 BL 149948, 9th Cir.,...

Sustainability

Food Demands Should Weigh Costs: Land O'Lakes CEO

Consumers demanding that their food be fresh, local, organic or cage-free should be more aware of the costs and benefits of those approaches, the head of one of the nation's leading butter brands said May 12....

Water Pollution

Shipping Company Pays \$805K to Settle Water Violations

An Indiana-based marine transportation company will pay \$805,000 in civil penalties to the federal government under a settlement resolving federal clean water violations linked to the company's illegal discharges of raw sewage into...

Water Pollution

Utilities Back Bill Creating Water, Sewer Assistance Pilot

Water and wastewater utility officials urged Congress May 12 to create a program modeled after the federal Low Income Heating Assistance Program to help poor residents who are unable to afford their water and sewer bills and face shutdowns....

CORRECTION

A story published May 11, "DOE's Building Efficiency Program Saves \$1.3 Billion," included an incorrect figure for the number of tons of carbon emissions avoided under the Better Buildings Challenge in the past five years....

Trade Mission to Mexico Focus on Renewable Energy

Representatives from Absaroka Energy, LLC, Burns and McDonnell Engineering Co. Inc. and SolarWorld Americas, Inc. will be among eight U.S. renewable energy companies participating in a trade mission to Mexico City May 16-19. Other companies...

SPECIAL REPORT

Water Resources

India's Audacious River-Linking Plan Moving, if Slowly

The Indian state of Andhra Pradesh last year switched on a lift irrigation system and diverted water from the Godavari River through a canal to a drought-prone region of the state and onward to the delta of another river, the Krishna. ...

REGULATORY AGENDA

Comment Deadlines

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